

REMARKS:

The Examiner has rejected applicant's claims 1, 3-8, 10-16 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first and second paragraphs. Applicant has now modified independent claims 1, 10 and 15 in an effort to place the claims in condition for allowance by including the axially spaced housing grooves which reside between the o-rings along the spool duct.

Applicant believes with the modifications made to the claims that all applicant's claims are now sufficiently clear and defined under §112. Accordingly, the §112 rejection should be withdrawn. In addition, applicant believes that the specification and drawings are sufficient to permit those skilled in the art to carry out the claimed invention.

Claim allowance is therefore solicited at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Mail Stop Non Fee Amendment, Group Art Unit 1724, Attention: Examiner Ivars C. Cintins (8 pages including cover letter) to Fax No. (703) 872-9306 on this 07th day of May, 2004.


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